

Message Text

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61
ORIGIN SS-30

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT IMMEDIATE

USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA IMMEDIATE

USDEL TORREMOLINOS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SUVA BY POUCH

AMEMBASSY BANJUL BY POUCH

AMCONSUL CURACAO BY POUCH

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE BY POUCH

XMT AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY BANJUL

AMCONSUL CURACAO

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

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EXDIS - INFORM CONSULS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: XX

SUBJ: MIDDLE EAST SITUATION

VIENNA PASS USDEL MBFR

KUWAIT POUCH MUSCAT AND DOHA

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

1. FOLLOWING IS MIDDLE EAST SITUATION THROUGH EVENING OF
OCTOBER 31.

2. MILITARY SITUATION. SITUATION ON BOTH FRONTS

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CONTINUES TO BE GENERALLY QUIET. HOWEVER, DETAILED
COMPLAINTS OF MINOR INFRACTIONS CONTINUE TO BE FILED.
THERE WAS ONE REPORT OF ISRAEL DROPPING SOME PARA-
TROOPS ON HILL ON SUEZ FRONT, ALTHOUGH HILL WAS

ALREADY WITHIN AREA HELD BY ISRAEL.

3. FAHMIAPPOINTED FOREIGN MINISTER. WIRE SERVICE REPORTS THAT SADAT HAS APPOINTED ISMAIL FAHMI FOREIGN MINISTER. ZAYYAT HAS REPORTEDLY BEEN APPOINTED PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR.
4. SECRETARY'S TRIP. THE SECRETARY'S PLANNED TRIP TO MIDDLE EAST AND OTHER LOCATIONS WAS ANNOUNCED AT NOON BRIEFING TODAY. US MISSION, NATO REPORTS THAT COUNCIL WELCOMES PLANNED BRIEFING BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY SISCO FOLLOWING THE SECRETARY'S TRIP.
5. THE MOOD IN ISRAEL. US EMBASSY, TEL AVIV REPORTS THAT PRESENT CLIMATE IN ISRAEL MAY BE CHARACTERIZED AS ONE OF CONFUSION AND APPREHENSION. THE ISRAELIS ARE NOW QUESTIONING WHETHER ISRAEL CAN WITHSTAND U.S. PRESSURES, BUT ISRAEL IS COUNTING ON MRS. MEIR'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON TO ENSURE THAT ISRAEL'S VOICE WILL BE EFFECTIVE. RELATED TO THIS, THERE ARE INCREASING STRAINS IN ISRAELI DOMESTIC POLITICS, AND CONCERN ABOUT U.S. POSITION. SOME 500 RELATIVES OF MISSING SOLDIERS AND PRISONERS OF WAR DEMONSTRATED THIS AFTERNOON NEAR THE U.S. EMBASSY IN TEL AVIV, ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORT. AN OFFICIAL U.S. SOURCE INDICATED NUMBER WAS 100-125.
6. POW LISTS. EGYPT HAS PASSED LIST OF ISRAELI POW'S TO ICRC. SYRIA HAS STATED THAT IT WILL NOT SUBMIT LISTS OF POW'S UNTIL ISRAEL CARRIES OUT GENEVA CONVENTION IN FULL. SYRIA SAID THAT FOR ITS PART, BEGIN QUOTE, IT REAFFIRMS THAT IT WILL CONTINUE TO ADHERE TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS, PARTICULARLY THE GENEVA CONVENTION INCLUDING SUBMISSION OF THE NAMES OF POW'S AND AUTHORIZING RED CROSS PERSONNEL TO VISIT THEM. END QUOTE. ISRAEL HAS SENT NAMES OF SOME 7,000
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ARAB PRISONERS TO THE ICRC.

7. JORDANIAN FORCE IN SYRIA. IN A MESSAGE TO THE ARMED FORCES, KING HUSSEIN SAID THAT JORDANIAN TROOPS MAY RETURN HOME VERY SOON FROM SYRIA, IN VIEW OF FACT THAT FIGHTING HAS STOPPED IN SYRIA, AND ALSO THAT FORCES FROM SEVERAL OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES REMAIN IN SYRIA.
8. ALGERIAN STATEMENT ON MIDDLE EAST. AN OFFICIAL ALGERIAN GOVERNMENT STATEMENT HAILED THE EGYPTIAN AND SYRIAN MILITARY ACTIONS, BEGIN QUOTE, AS HAVING RESTORED ARAB DIGNITY, AND AS AN AFFIRMATION

OF ARAB WILL TO REGAIN THEIR RIGHTS BY ANY MEANS.
END QUOTE. THE STATEMENT CALLS ATTENTION
TO THE SOLIDARITY OF AFRICAN, NON-ALIGNED AND
SOCIALIST NATIONS WITH THE ARAB CAUSE. IT STATES
THAT THE, BEGIN QUOTE, ISOLATION OF ZIONISM AND
ITS ALLIES MUST BE MAINTAINED AND REINFORCED UNTIL
JUST AND DURABLE SOLUTION IN ME HAS BEEN ACHIEVED.
END QUOTE. US- INT. ALGIERS READS THIS STATEMENT
AS MEANING THAT ALGERIA WILL ACCEPT WHAT EGYPT AND
SYRIA FIND ACCEPTABLE WITH REGARD TO THE CEASE-
FIRE AND THE ULTIMATE DISPOSITION OF THEIR RESPECTIVE
TERRITORIES.

9. UNEF. IN PROGRESS REPORT SUBMITTED TO SECURITY COUNCIL TODAY, SEC. GEN. SAID THAT UNEF WILL BE UP TO ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF ITS EVENTUAL PROJECTED STRENGTH BY END OF FIRST WEEK OF NOVEMBER. THIS WILL BE POSSIBLE, AS RESULT OF DECISIONS TAKEN BY IRISH TO PROVIDE SOME 400 MEN AND SWedes, FINNS, AND AUSTRIANS TO UP THEIR ADVANCE CONTINGENTS TO BATTALION STRENGTH. ON DEPLOYMENTS, WALDHEIM INDICATED THE FINNS ARE NOW ESTABLISHED IN SUEZ CITY, SWedes IN ISMAILIA, AND AUSTRIANS IN CAIRO, WHERE THEY ARE ENGAGED IN SPECIAL TASKS, INCLUDING PATROLS SOUTHWEST OF SUEZ. EMBASSY LIMA REPORTS PERU HAS VOLUNTEERED CONTINGENT, AND EMBASSY OSLO REPORTS NORWEGIAN DISAPPOINTMENT AT NOT BEING ASKED BY THE UN TO CONTRIBUTE FORCES.

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10. FINNISH UNEF AIRLIFT. PLANS ARE NOW WELL ADVANCED FOR THE TRANSPORT OF FINNISH PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT TO CAIRO BEGINNING ON NOVEMBER 1 WITH DEPARTURE OF FIRST FINNISH UNEF AUGMENTATION ELEMENTS NON-STOP FROM HELSINKI VIA USAF C-141'S. WE HAVE ALERTED POSTS ALONG ANTICIPATED ITINERARY THAT OVERFLIGHT CLEARANCE REQUESTS ARE ON THE WAY AND HAVE QUERIED US/INT CAIRO ON POSSIBLE LIMITATIONS ON AVAILABILITY OF JET FUEL AT CAIRO INTERNATIONAL.

11. EQUIPMENT REQUESTS. WE NOW HAVE A REQUEST FROM UN FOR HEAVY EQUIPMENT IN SUPPORT OF UNEF OPERATIONS. UN WANTS TRANSPORT AND SERVICE VEHICLES (BUSES, SHOP-TRUCKS, AND PICK-UPS) ENGINEERING EQUIPMENT, WATER PURIFICATION EQUIPMENTS, ETC. AIM IS TO USE STANDARDIZED EQUIPMENT FROM START, RATHER THAN HAVING TO ACCOMPLISH STANDARDIZATION LATER AS WAS DONE IN THE PREVIOUS UNEF

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NOUAKCHOTT
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